

REMARKS

Please enter this First Preliminary Amendment before undertaking a substantive examination of the above-captioned patent application. Priority is being claimed to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/818,469 pursuant to 37 C.F.R §1.78(a)(1)(iv). The processing and retention fee (37 C.F.R §1.21(l)) for U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/818,469 is being concurrently submitted with this First Preliminary Amendment under separate cover letter.

Although the Applicant believes that no fees are due for filing this First Preliminary Amendment, please charge any fees deemed necessary to Deposit Account No. 50-1419.

Respectfully submitted,

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